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Tuesday, January 29, 1952

Bill Draper came to see me this morning. He only arrived yesterday, and with his customary energy is already hard at work. We talked about a number of problems of joint concern, and afterwards I did the same with Ed Martin who had accompanied him [redacted] from the United States. I talked to Ed particularly about the French financial situation, and the drastic cutbacks they are proposing to make in their armed forces program for NATO. This is a [redacted] serious matter for the future of NATO, and we are cabling back and forth between here and the Department regarding it.

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The Turkish Ambassador came to see me, primarily to talk about the entry of Turkey and Greece in NATO. It looks as if the French Parliament would pass the necessary legislation to this end in time. He also expressed his grave concern over events in Egypt. Now that the King has dismissed the former government, and seized control of the situation, there should be more

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room for maneuver there.

Bill Pawley and his wife came for lunch to-day. He is over here on a special mission for the Defense Department and is authorized by Bob Lovett to speed up our defense expenditures in France. Bill would have liked to have gone as Ambassador to Spain to occupy the post just vacated by Stanton Griffis. I do not know why he has not been selected since he has [redacted] qualifications for the job and [redacted] strong political backing. However, I heard later this afternoon that the nomination of Lincoln MacVeagh, now Ambassador at Lisbon, for our Embassy at Madrid, had been sent to the Senate.

Jimmy Riddleberger came to see me about [redacted] OSR matters.

I then talked to M. Poulain of the wine firm of Nicolas to see if he could arrange to store for my account [redacted] two thousand odd bottles of their wines which I still have in my cellar. Wine is so easily ruined by bad storage that I hope he will be able to

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do this for me, and perhaps sometime in the future I can have the enjoyment of it.

Harold Callender called to discuss the European Army.

I have had talks off and on all day with Tommy and others regarding the French financial situation and the EDF.

To-night, Harry Labouisse and I went over this whole situation, and I sent off a long cable about it.

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Wednesday, February 13, 1952.

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EXCISE

I took the Golden Arrow to London this morning. A good meal, with a bottle of Pontet Canet. The boat trip from Calais to Dover passed almost unnoticed as I was deep in conversation with my friend the Marian [redacted] Ambassador to France, canvassing possible solutions to the oil question in Iran. Everyone was extraordinarily courteous at Dover. I am afraid they were under the misapprehension that I had come as an official representative to attend the King's funeral, with the King of Greece and the Marian [redacted] Ambassador as fellow travellers.

John Kelly met me at Victoria station, and we drove to Nancy Lancaster's, 18 A Charles Street. Nancy was there [redacted] recovering from grippe, and I saw Michael and his wife, Lady Anne Tree, who had just bought a timid parrot.

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As soon as I had changed, I went to dinner with Anthony Eden at Carlton House Terrace. Averell, Dean, Sir Pierson Dixon, Sir William Strang and Rab Butler

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were the others. We had a go-around on NATO and EDC questions, including the necessity of settling the Saar dispute. Eden's attractive house, the official residence of the Foreign Secretary, was bought by the Labor Government while Ernie Bevin was in office. We had an excellent meal, with some admirable Hoch, a 1929 Mouton Rothschild, and a 1913 Martell cognac.

Just before we left about 12.30, Dean and Averell brought up their recommendation that NATO civilian headquarters be moved from London to Paris. This set off subdued fireworks.

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The evening ended on a somewhat

sour [redacted] note.

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